

## WAR TAX BILL WINS

MEASURE IS PASSED BY THE U. S. SENATE BY VOTE OF 45 TO 29.

## SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT

Tax is Extended for One Year—Fight Made on Measure by Senator Smoot and Other Republican Leaders—Underwood Makes Maiden Speech.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The administration's first revenue bill, extending the emergency war tax for one year, was passed by the senate on Friday by a vote of 45 to 29. The measure was signed by the president.

Mr. Smoot of Utah, a Republican member of the senate finance committee, moved to limit the time extension of the war taxes to June 30, 1916. This amendment was rejected 25 to 50, by a party vote, except that five Republicans—Mr. Clapp of Minnesota, Mr. Curtis of Kansas, Mr. Harding of Ohio, Mr. Jones of Washington and Mr. Kenyon of Iowa, refused to seem to support even that extension and voted against it.

Mr. Underwood's maiden speech was a great personal triumph. He has not been assigned to the finance committee, which has particular jurisdiction over all fiscal matters, but his experience in the house has made him the recognized Democratic authority on finance.

Mr. Underwood by three quiet questions induced Senator Penrose to admit that the Republicans did not want protection to exclude foreign competition; that foreign imports under the Democratic tariff had not therefore injured the industries of the country and that the country with the Underwood act still in force was now highly prosperous.

## FIVE DIE IN TRAIN WRECK

Eleven Others Hurt When Cars Crash on the Baltimore & Ohio at Felton, Pa.

Chester, Pa., Dec. 20.—Five persons were killed and eleven injured, one probably fatally, in a rear-end collision between an accommodation train bound from Wilmington to Chester and a train of empty express cars on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad on Friday night at Felton, two miles south of this city.

Two of the dead were employees of the railroad and two were negro passengers. Daniel Callenger, a passenger, of Philadelphia, was the fifth victim. All the injured lived in Philadelphia and Chester or in nearby towns.

## TITANIC OWNERS MAKE OFFER

White Star Line Agrees to Settle All Claims for Lives Lost—\$500,000 to Americans.

New York, Dec. 20.—The White Star line has agreed to pay \$664,000 in settlement of all claims arising from the sinking of the Titanic on April 15, 1912, when more than 1,500 persons were drowned, attorneys for the line announced here on Friday.

Of this amount approximately \$500,000 would be distributed among American claimants, \$50,000 to British claimants, and \$114,000 would be required for interest and expenses in connection with the numerous suits. The agreement must be acted upon by December 30 to become operative.

## FIFTEEN DIE IN TORNADO

Many Killed and Injured at Cullum, Miss.—Twister Causes Heavy Damage to Property.

Meridian, Miss., Dec. 20.—A tornado that swept through Lauderdale and Kemper counties on Friday destroyed the town of Cullum, killed at least 15 persons and injured 50. In Meridian three persons were killed and many injured. Five houses were blown down at Dipoff, 12 miles north, but no persons were injured.

Several buildings and a section of the Bailey forest at Bailey were destroyed, as were also numerous buildings at Giles.

The tornado swept into Alabama.

## ENVOY TO MEXICO IS PICKED

Naming of Henry P. Fletcher as Ambassador Restores Relations Between Nations.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Henry P. Fletcher, now ambassador to Chile, was nominated on Friday by President Wilson for ambassador to Mexico. Eliseo Arredondo already has been appointed Mexican ambassador to the United States and Mr. Fletcher's nomination restores diplomatic relations between the two countries, broken off nearly three years ago.

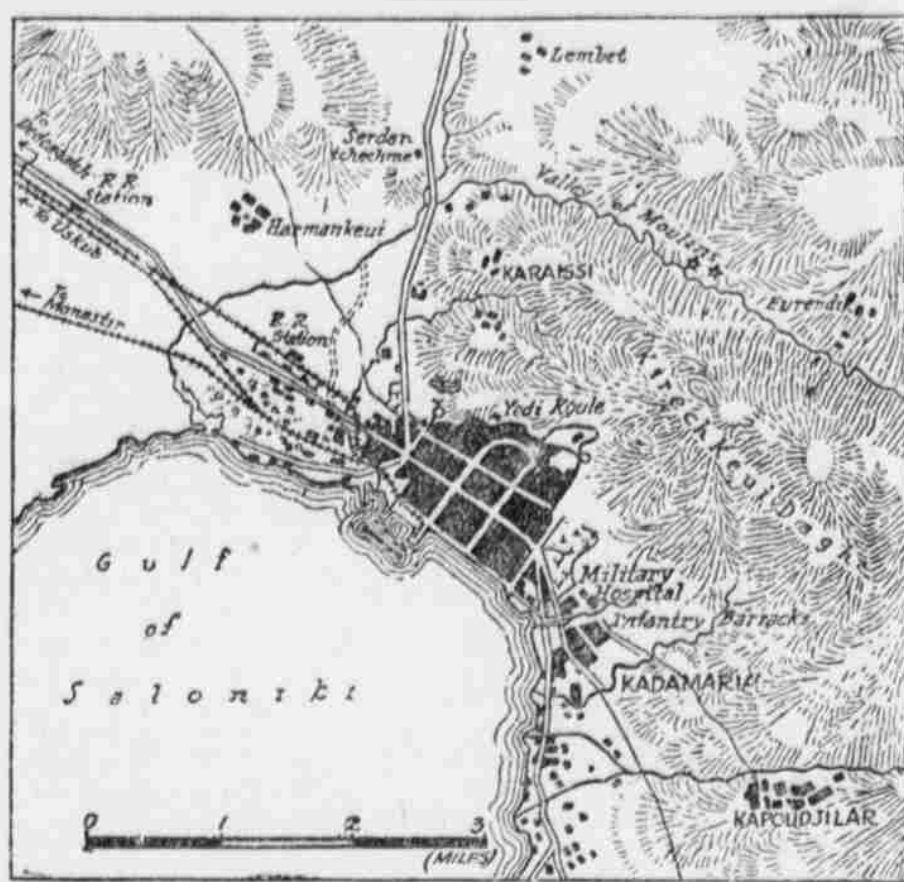
## Wives Desert Two Brothers.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 20.—H. A. Miskell and W. E. Miskell, brothers, and married on the same date, both had the same luck in matrimony, according to their divorce petitions filed here. Both charge desertion.

## Shells Hit Allied Cruiser.

Constantinople, Dec. 20.—An allied cruiser that was bombarding the Turkish position on the Gallipoli peninsula was struck by Turkish shells and forced to withdraw, it was announced by the Ottoman war office.

## SALONIKI AND ENVIRONS



The Greeks have withdrawn nearly all their troops from Saloniki and the allies are falling back on that city and preparing to defend it.

## GEN. FRENCH IS OUSTED MUST FREE GERMANS

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG CHIEF OF BRITISH IN FRANCE.

Change in Commanders May Mean That Allies Contemplate New Drive Against Germans.

London, Dec. 17.—Lieut. Gen. Sir Douglas Haig has been appointed to succeed Field Marshal Sir John French in command of the British armies in France and Flanders.

The new commander of the British in the western field is considerably younger than the veteran he succeeds, but he has had vast experience in actual war. General Haig is fifty-four years old, whereas Field Marshal French is sixty-three.

General Haig was educated at Oxford and joined the Seventh Hussars in 1885. He served in the Sudan in 1898 and won medals for valor at Atbara and Khartum. With General French he participated in the South African war, where he again won promotions and medals for distinguished service. In 1912 he was made general officer commanding at Aldershot. When the present war began he was given command of the First Army corps.

The belief is general that the choice of General Haig for commander in chief in France means preparations for the initiation of a more vigorous campaign in the West, presumably in conjunction with offensive movements in the Russian, Balkan and Italian zones of operations.

## TRUCE IN BASEBALL WAR

Peace Declared Between Three Big Leagues—Weeghman to Get Cubs.

Chicago, Dec. 17.—Through the action of the American league in accepting the proposals from the National and Federal leagues a truce was declared here on Wednesday. A peace agreement will be drawn up in the next two or three days and the chances are will be signed soon.

Terms of the treaty were not revealed, but the main points are known to call for the dissolution of the Gilmore circuit through mergers with several National league teams and perhaps the Cleveland club.

The Cubs will be transferred to President Weeghman and his partners on the North side, while Phil Ball will in all probability get control of the St. Louis Cardinals.

## CONTRABAND ON FORD SHIP

Britain Allows Peace Vessel to Proceed Under Bond—Was Held at Kirkwall.

Dundee, Dec. 17.—The Scandinavian-American liner Oscar II, bearing Henry Ford and his peace party, now at Kirkwall, will proceed on her voyage, probably at once. The vessel was detained to allow the British admiralty to examine her cargo and had nothing to do with the character of the human freight aboard. Part of the cargo will be taken to a British prize court on the ground that it is contraband, but in order not to ruffle Mr. Ford's doves the government, instead of sending the vessel to a port to be unloaded, is permitting the vessel to proceed under bond.

## Labor Agent Is Killed.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Axel Alex's career as a business agent of the lathers' union, which has spread discontent in the building industry of Chicago, has ended. He was shot to death by R. S. Johnson, a negro lather.

## Man Slays Self and Wife.

Gloversville, N. Y., Dec. 18.—The bodies of Jesse Seligman, treasurer of the Gloversville Leather company, and Mrs. Seligman were found in their bedroom. It is believed Seligman killed his wife and shot himself.

WASHINGTON SENDS NOTE TO FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

Kaiser's Subjects Were Taken From American Steamers by French Warships—Act Illegal.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The United States government cabled Ambassador Sharp at Paris, for presentation to the French foreign office, a note vigorously protesting against the removal by the French cruiser Descaartes of six Germans and Austrians from the American steamships Carolina, Coamo and San Juan.

Immediate release of the men was asked on the ground that the seizure of citizens of any nation from an American vessel on the high seas is without legal justification and constitutes a flagrant violation of American rights.

Couched in friendly terms, the communication gives the American point of view employed in the case of August Piepenbrink, a German, who was removed from the American ship Windber by the French cruiser Conde in November of last year and released after representations by the United States.

Attention is directed to the fact that the men removed from the ships were not embodied in "the armed forces of the enemy," as that term is used in the declaration of London. It is asserted, however, that there is no justification for the removal of subjects of a nation which is an enemy of France from an American vessel on the high seas bound to a neutral port, even if they could properly be regarded as military persons.

To support this position, it is understood, the note points to the rules set down by the French minister of foreign affairs in a note sent during the Civil war to the French minister to the United States in regard to the removal of the Confederate commissioners, Mason and Slidell, from the steamship Trent.

## SPARKS FROM THE WIRE

Chicago, Dec. 17.—Jess Willard, heavyweight champion boxer, and Fred Fulton have been matched. Articles of agreement closing the fight were signed at the Morrison hotel by Tom Jones for the titleholder, Mike Collins for Fulton and Tom Andrews for Promoters Tommy Burns and Dominick Tortorich. The fight is to take place in New Orleans March 4, and is scheduled to go 20 rounds.

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## RAIL STRIKE ENDED

LABOR TROUBLE ON BELT LINE AT CHICAGO SETTLED BY ARBITRATION.

## MEN RETURN TO WORK

U. S. Mediation Agent Brings About Settlement—Counsel for Road Says Employees Have Accepted to the Wishes of the Company.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—The strike on the Belt Line Railway company, which practically paralyzed transportation of freight for the last few days, was ended early Friday morning.

After an interchange of negotiations between officials of the road and the strikers' committee, which lasted into the early morning hours, G. W. W. Hanger, assistant United States commissioner of mediation and conciliation, who acted as arbiter, announced that an agreement had been reached and the men would proceed to work immediately.

The following statement was made by C. G. Austin, counsel for the Belt Line railroad, and contains the terms of settlement:

"The original demands of the employees was that hourly service of trains each day be established between Seventy-fifth and Halsted streets and the Clearing yards. The officials of the road have always been willing and ready to establish a limited service morning and evening for such reasonable time as was necessary for the men to adapt themselves to the change of the terminal from Eighty-third street and Vincennes road to Clearing."

"Through the services of United States Commissioner of Mediation and Conciliation G. W. W. Hanger an agreement has been made with the employees whereby they have accepted to the wishes of the railroad company, abandoning their demands for hourly service during each twenty-four hours and accepted the service train for the limited train service proffered by the company."

The men made preparation to return to work at once.

## STORM CAUSES HEAVY LOSS

Millions of Dollars' Worth of Property Destroyed—Railroads Tied Up in East—Eight Dead.

New York, Dec. 16.—Demoralized railroads, millions in property damage and widespread inconvenience was the storm toll reported here on Tuesday. It was the worst storm that has visited New York and the eastern states since the memorable blizzard of 1888. The New York Central and the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroads were almost tied up. Only a few of the most important trains were moving. All wires were down on both railroads. The block system was out of business.

With conditions only partially alleviated it is feared there will be a milk famine. Frantic efforts are being made to get some of the milk trains into town.

Six inches of snow fell in New York city. In Connecticut it reached a depth of from two to three feet.

## NEW POSTMASTERS NAMED

Senate Gets President's Nominations for Many Towns in the Middle West.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The president on Thursday sent the following nominations of postmasters to the senate:

Michigan—John O'Meara, Escanaba; Illinois—May N. Prill, Centralia; Thomas J. Hopkins, Wenona; O. H. Johnson, Bowen; James H. Spiker, Rushnell; John F. Bushmeyer, Colchester; George H. Hart, Nauvoo; H. Bruce Schroyer, New Windsor; Robert Sherrard, Oak Park; Louis W. Richter, Melrose Park.

Indiana—John C. Ring, Frankton; Edward S. Edgar, Winchester; William H. Johnston, Crawfordsville; Joseph T. Stahl, Kendallville; William T. Newton, Rosedale; Ralph W. McConnell, Oxford; Charles V. Rirt, Batesville; Frank W. Boren, Owensville.

## CHICAGO WINS G. O. P. MEET

Republican National Convention to Be Held on June 7—San Francisco Poor Second.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Chicago was selected by the Republican national committee on Tuesday as the meeting place of the 1916 Republican national convention, to be held June 7, one week before the Democratic convention in St. Louis. The vote was: Chicago, 39; San Francisco, 13; St. Louis, 7, and Philadelphia, 2.

## Pick Slack for U. S. Attorney.

Washington, Dec. 20.—L. Ert Slack was agreed on by Senators Kern and Shively on Friday afternoon for United States district attorney at Indianapolis to succeed Frank A. Dalley, resigned.

## Judge Smith to Try Lorimer.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—The case of William Lorimer, former senator, was assigned for trial to Judge Frederick A. Smith of the circuit court. The case will open shortly after January 1.

## CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

Pledges for \$10,000 have been secured to erect a hospital at Plainview.

Judge Corcoran of Hastings set January 3 as the date for hearing in the John O'Connor will case.

The census of Scottsbluff, taken by the Star-Herald, gives the city a total population of five thousand.

A safe in a jewelry store at Petersburg was blown open recently and stock worth \$4,500 was taken.

The foundations for the new sugar factory at Scottsbluff are progressing nicely, and are about finished.

Plans are ready for the \$100,000 medical hospital soon to be erected for the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

E. C. Krewson has purchased the Elm Creek Beason from George Keenan, who has owned the paper for two years.

The city council of Hastings recently completed arrangement for eleven miles of pavement. This will give Hastings sixteen miles of paved streets.

The town of Cornlea is to have a new and up-to-date hotel in the spring. M. J. Clark, a wealthy and influential man of the town, is behind the project.

Alliance was chosen by the state convention of county commissioners and supervisors for the next meeting place during their convention in Columbus.

The matter of establishing a hospital in Falls City is being revived. A meeting will be held soon by enthusiasts to decide if sufficient funds can be raised.

Citizens of Fairfield have raised \$30,000 for a creamery at that place. The project is being held up owing to the possibility of the putting in of a condensation at Hastings.

The six weeks' revival at Hastings closed with a total of 1,772 converts and reconsecrations. The free will offering for Dr. John S. Hamilton, the evangelist, was \$1,135.

Fire completely destroyed the plant of the Chieftain at Winnebago a few days ago. Its editor is going to reassemble the necessary equipment to resume publication.

Ground was broken a few days ago for the new Masonic and Odd Fellows' building at Petersburg. The building will be a full two-story affair, and will cost over \$16,000.

Ed F. Vrzak, county clerk of Colfax county, died at his home in Schuyler, after an illness of only a few hours of heart trouble. He was very prominent in lodge circles.

The Selden-Beck Construction company of Omaha were awarded the contract for the new Terminal building in Lincoln. The structure will be ten stories high and cost between \$400,000 and \$500,000.

Work on the great water power project of the Central Power company at Grand Island is progressing. The completion of figures as to the actual work now done, required by the state board, shows that at the present time almost \$500,000 has already been expended.

Masonic and Eastern Star officers and many past grand officers attended the dedication of the Masonic girls' orphanage at Fremont. The building is situated on a forty-acre tract north of Fremont, purchased for that purpose by the lodge. The building is two stories high, and cost \$12,000.

Ladies of the Elude club of Kearney, backed by the Commercial club, gave their first municipal concert of the season last week. Municipal concerts will be given every other Sunday during the winter and should they prove to be what the people want, they will be continued throughout the coming summer.

Al Agers, a prominent farmer of Creston, has the distinction of killing the largest timber wolf ever seen in that part of the state. The animal was killed on the Miller ranch and had been terrorizing adjoining ranches for a number of years, killing young calves and pigs. The wolf weighed sixty-eight pounds.

The Holdrege Commercial club has adopted resolutions opposing the proposed tax on bank checks. It is set forth that the tax "would not only create an unmitigated nuisance, but also work an unnecessary hardship on the depositors of our banks." The Nebraska congressional delegation in Washington, is urged to work against the measure.

A group of Lincoln business men have bought the Lincoln club of the Western baseball league from Hugh Jones for \$12,500. George Stone, formerly a member of the St. Louis Browns, will likely become head of the new organization. William "Ducky" Holmes, manager of the Lincoln club five years ago, will again assume the management, and will begin at once to rebuild the club.

Plans for a \$25,000 high school building at Guide Rock are being drawn by Hastings architects. The structure will be two-story and basement of brick with stone trimmings.

Douglas county voters are to have the opportunity to authorize \$2,000,000 in bonds for good roads next April, the county commissioners having agreed to submit the proposition. The board took unanimous action. Paying and grading the highways leading into the city are specified as the uses to which the money must be put if the proposition carries.

A farmers' institute will be held at Palmyra, January 28.

A city charity board has been organized at Fairbury with officers selected from the leading clubs and societies.

Citizens of Papillion are making elaborate preparation of a farmers' institute to be held in that place December 27 to 31.

The collapse of a staging upon which he was working caused the instant death of George Seibert, seven miles north of Laurel.

Every child in North Platte is to receive a present at the municipal Christmas tree, according to plans of the club women of the city.

Nebraska Master Builders association will hold their annual convention in Omaha January 11 and 12. An elaborate program is being arranged for the occasion.

That construction of the Omaha, Lincoln & Beatrice Interurban line between Omaha and Lincoln will be started in 1916 and pushed to completion, is the latest rumor affecting this road.

The village board of Oconto adopted a resolution at a recent meeting endorsing the administration's "National preparedness" program. This is the first village in the state to take such action.

Convicted on the charge of illegal cigarette sales, Theodore Masters, pool hall proprietor, of Hastings, was fined \$50 and costs in Justice Lawler's court. Complaint was filed by Chief Cresson.

Articles of incorporation of the Farmers' Co-Operative Union association of Barnston have been filed in Gage county. The company is capitalized for \$20,000. The association operates a general grain and seed business.

Business men are bound that Omaha shall have a hay market. This was voiced at the Commercial club, when a resolution to that end was unanimously adopted. The club decided to put its strength and influence back of the project.

Mrs. R. D. Rogers, living on a farm about fifteen miles northwest of McCook, in Hitchcock county was burned to death in the Rogers sod house recently. No other person was on the place at the time. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Good road boosters of Buffalo county have started a movement to employ the services of a road commissioner, whose duty it would be to inspect all highways, bridges, etc., and who would devote his entire time to constructing and repairing the same.

Fire destroyed the buildings and stock of the Mike Welch pool hall and the Saunders and Mulhair hardware store, at Lynch causing a loss of nearly \$6,000. The fire provided the first test of Lynch's new water system and residents are very much gratified with the results.

With his body dangling just above the tracks, Arthur Baker, aged 30, Union Pacific brakeman, was dragged over a block at Kearney, and that he did not fall beneath the wheels of the engine is due to the fact that he became caught as he slipped from the running board.

Among the improvements now being made in the business buildings of McCook is the new McCook National bank building. The front of the building will be Bedford stone—the first building, other than the big federal building, in which that stone has been used in McCook.

By executive order of President Wilson Hastings will be the fifth city in the United States to have an official federal census taken between the decennial enumerations. Under the direction of the census bureau at Washington, enumerators began a canvass of the city December 13.

Hastings high school students have organized the first radio club in that section and with the co-operation of Professor Hanlon and the school board will locate a central wireless station on the high school building, with receiving and transmitting apparatus at various neighborhood points.

The municipal affairs committee of Florence is planning steps to bring about the annexation of Florence to Omaha as soon as possible. The question will probably be submitted to a vote at the next election in April and the merger will be effected if a majority of the vote in each municipality favors it.

The Farmers' Equity Union at its convention in Omaha selected that city as possibly one of the five cities in the United States where the new national central selling agencies of the association are to be established. Minneapolis, Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago were mentioned as other probable locations.

According to a bulletin issued by the United States department of commerce, Omaha does half of all the laundry business in this state. Her nineteen establishments in 1914 represented 45.9 per cent of the state's total power laundry investment, paid out 51.9 per cent of the total paid for services, employed 46.3 of total number of wage earners and received 47.8 of total received for work done.

A company has been organized and plans are being prepared for the building of a \$75,000 hotel in York early next spring. The new structure will be on the site now occupied by the Le Grande hotel.

Children citizens are clated over the estimates of Secretary McAdoo for the appropriations of this session of congress, \$90,000 toward the new federal building in that city. The full amount allowed at the previous session was \$125. This summer \$1,000 was spent in testing for foundation work.